Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU(REDICE STUDIO)
Original Novel · Chugong
Story · h-goon

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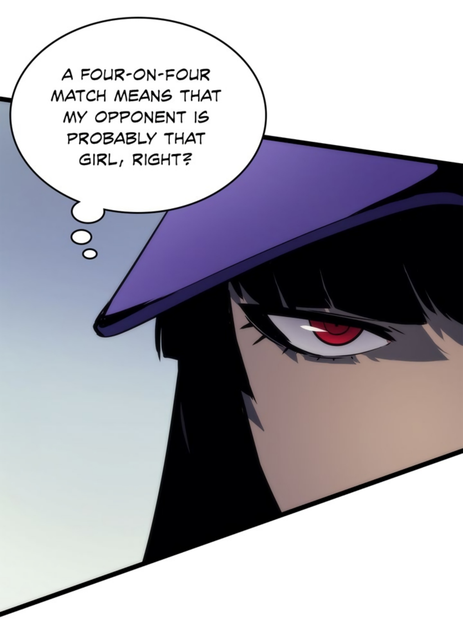
GOTO RYUJI ISN'T PARTICIPATING.
MAYBE ALL HE WANTS IS TO SEE HOW STRONG WE ARE.
STILL, A MATCH BETWEEN S-RANK HUNTERS IS HARD TO COME BY. I'M GLAD I CAME.

MA DONGWOOK AND BAEK YOONHO. I'VE ALREADY GOT A GOOD READ ON THESE TWO GUYS FROM THE FIGHT THEY HAD EARLIER.
BUT I GET THE FEELING THAT BAEK YOONHO IS HIDING SOMETHING UP HIS SLEEVE.


A FOUR-ON-FOUR MATCH MEANS THAT MY OPPONENT IS PROBABLY THAT GIRL, RIGHT?

I HOPE THEY

GO EASY ON US...

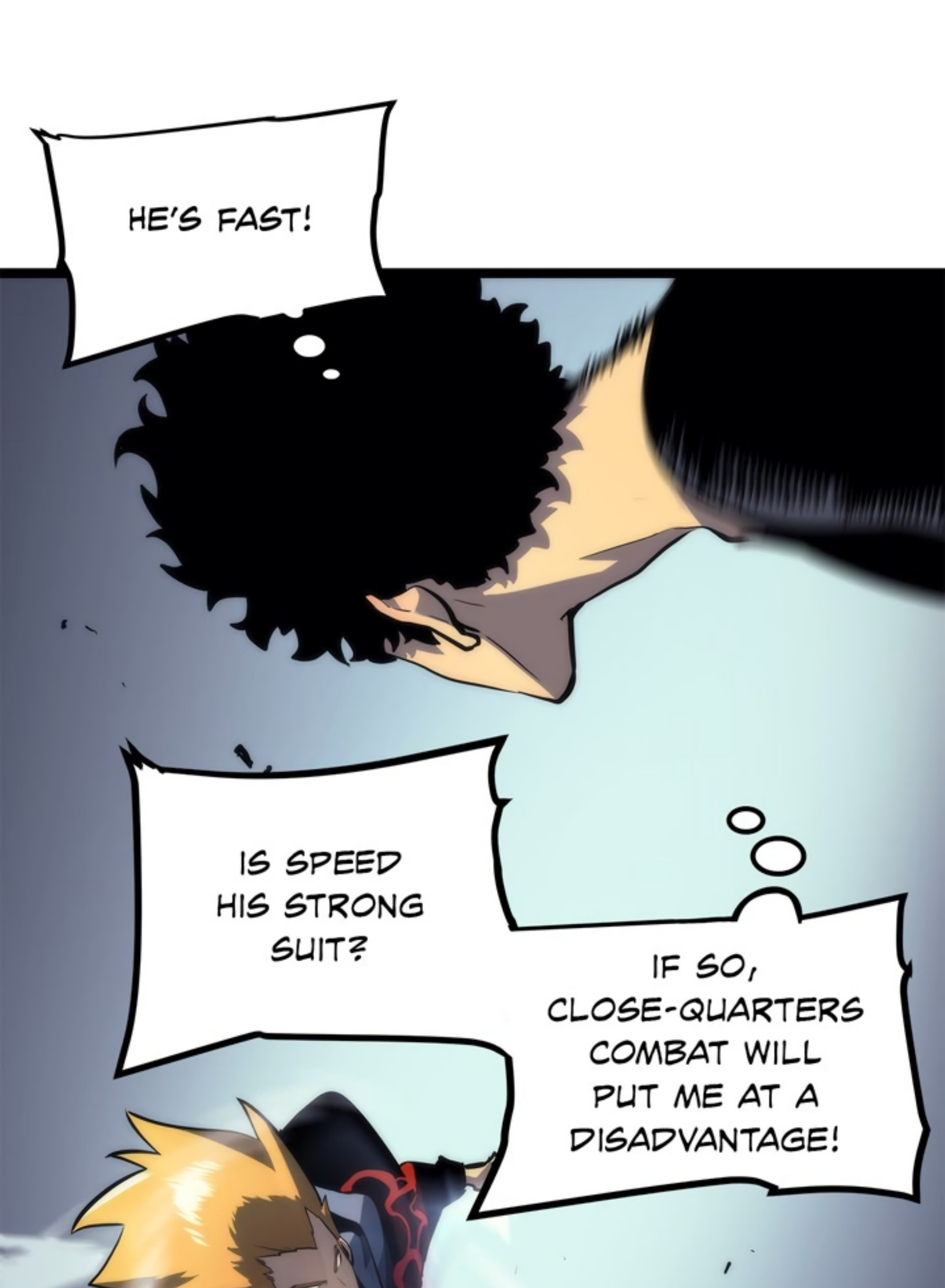
WELL, THEN...

LET'S GET STARTED!!

MA DONGWOOK HAS THE ABILITY TO GROW BIGGER!
LOOKS LIKE HE PREFERS A BATTLE OF STRENGTH!
WHOOSH
NICE! VERY NICE! I LIKE THAT YOU KEEP IT SIMPLE!

LET'S SEE WHO'S STRONGER!
BOOM
STOMP
STOMP

JUMP


HE'S FAST!
IS SPEED HIS STRONG SUIT?
IF SO, CLOSE-QUARTERS COMBAT WILL PUT ME AT A DISADVANTAGE!

WELL, CREATING DISTANCE IS MY SPECIALTY!
WHIRR

AND SO IS ATTACKING FROM A DISTANCE!

A MAGIC ARROW?!

BOOM
HMPH, IS HE A RANGER?!
BOOM
I SEE, SO YOU DON'T WANT THIS TO BE A ONE-ON-ONE BATTLE, HUH?
BOOM
OUR ONLY OPTION IS TO HAVE HOSHINO TAKE CARE OF THAT GUY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!

THE INTERIOR OF THIS FACILITY WAS FORTIFIED USING ESSENCE STONES OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY...
AVERAGE HUNTERS WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE SO MUCH AS A DENT ON THE WALLS, BUT

THE PLACE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY WRECKED IN A MATTER OF SECONDS.

IT'S QUITE REGRETTABLE THAT WE'RE SENDING ONLY OUR YOUNG HUNTERS INTO THE BATTLEFIELD...

OUR OPPONENTS ARE SOME OF THE MOST POWERFUL S-RANKS IN THE WORLD!

WE HAVE TO BRACE OURSELVES AND BE PREPARED TO NOT JUST GRAB THEIR WRISTS, BUT ALSO BREAK THEM IF WE NEED TO!

THE ONLY RULE I LIVE BY IS THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST!

HE HAD THE INTENT TO KILL JUST NOW.

BUT WHY DID HE HESITATE?

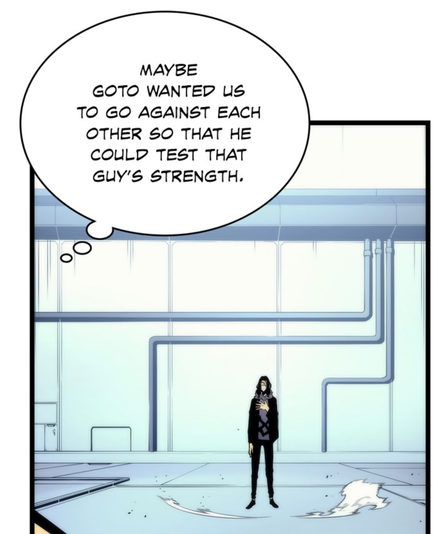
COULD HE BE... SCARED?

DAMN, I HESITATED AGAIN.

MAYBE I'M REALLY NOT CUT OUT TO BE A HUNTER.

HIS NAME WAS KUMAMOTO, RIGHT?
I CAN'T TELL IF HE'S GOT GREAT JUDGMENT, OR IF HE'S JUST A COWARD.
HE DOESN'T SEEM AGGRESSIVE, THOUGH.

PERHAPS I WAS MISTAKEN BACK THEN.
HMM, COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE AREN'T MANY HUNTERS WHO DISLIKE FIGHTING MAGIC BEASTS.
I GUESS A FEW HEALERS DON'T LIKE TO... SINCE THEY'RE ALL ABOUT HEALING OTHERS.
WAIT, IS AN AFFINITY FOR FIGHTING ONE OF THE QUALITIES REQUIRED TO BECOME AN AWAKENED BEING?
NAH, NO WAY.


MAYBE GOTO WANTED US TO GO AGAINST EACH OTHER SO THAT HE COULD TEST THAT GUY'S STRENGTH.

FSHHH
MAYBE HE WANTED TO SEE IF HE WAS PREPARED TO FIGHT THE ANTS.
HE'S USING ME FOR HIS LITTLE TEST, HUH...?
CRACK
CRACK
I SHOULD GIVE THEM A LITTLE TASTE OF MY TRUE POWERS!
TH, THE LOOK IN HIS EYES HAS CHANGED...!

I'M SO SCARED!
I WANT TO GET
OUT OF HERE!

LEAP

YOU'RE A PATHETIC COWARD.
WHAT A PITY. YOU'RE PROBABLY ONE OF THE TOP S-RANKS OUT THERE.
WHOOSH
WHOOSH

WELL, DAMN. THERE'S NOTHIN' BUT MONSTERS HERE.
MY MATCH EARLIER WAS NOTHIN' BUT CHILD'S PLAY COMPARED TO THIS.
NONSENSE, MR. PARK! YOU WERE COOL AS HECK!

THUD

LOOKS LIKE I'M THE STRONGER OF THE TWO OF US.

...HAHA, I CAN'T BELIEVE I GOT DRILLED INTO THE GROUND.
THIS IS A FIRST FOR ME.

CRASH

ARGH!

SEEMS LIKE I'M THE WINNER, NO?

HOO...

SO AM I NEXT?
SEEMS LIKE YOU ALL THINK I'M AN EASIER TARGET THAN CHA HAE-IN.
WELL, YOU'VE UNDERESTIMATED ME.

POW
UGH... I THOUGHT SHE WAS JUST FAST, BUT I WAS WRONG.
SWISH
I CAN'T READ THE PATTERN OF HER MOVEMENTS!

CHA HAE-IN'S NICKNAME IS "THE DANCER."
SHE WAS GIVEN THIS NAME BECAUSE OF THE WAY SHE'D SWIFTLY KILL ONE BEAST AFTER THE OTHER, AS IF SHE WERE DANCING.
BUT SHE BANNED THE USE OF THE NAME BECAUSE SHE FOUND IT EMBARRASSING, SO NOT MANY PEOPLE CALL HER BY THAT NICKNAME.

SLASH

TAP
TOUCH.

I HAVE TO HURRY UP AND HELP BAEK YOONHO!

THOSE TWO OVER THERE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE THAT GUY!
I SHOULD JUST FOCUS ON DEALING WITH THIS WOMAN...!

POW
POW
POW
POW
POW
POW

WHAT WAS THAT?!
SHE'S LIKE A GATLING GUN.

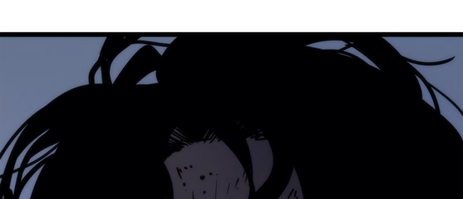
HOW MANY TIMES DID SHE PUNCH HIM JUST NOW?

TEN... NO, MAYBE 14 TIMES.

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE HIT HIM SO MANY TIMES IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE. NO ONE COULD'VE BLOCKED AN ATTACK LIKE THAT.

OOPS, IT WAS AN INSTINCTIVE RESPONSE. I DIDN'T MEAN TO BEAT HIM UP.

KUMAMOTO'S LOST IT.



ONCE THAT GUY GETS ANGRY, HE TURNS INTO A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON.

HE DOESN'T JUST TURN INTO A DIFFERENT PERSON, HE LOSES ALL SENSE OF RATIONAL THINKING.

HE CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING AFTER HE'S DONE FIGHTING.

A GUY LIKE THAT'S NOT FIT TO BE IN A STRIKE SQUAD.

YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN HE'LL START ACTING OUT ON HIS OWN OR ATTACK HIS FELLOW TEAMMATES.

STILL, HE'S CAPABLE OF CLEARING A B-RANK GATE ALL BY HIMSELF...

THOUGH IF HE CAN'T WORK WITH A TEAM TO CLEAR AN A-RANK GATE, THEN WHAT'S THE POINT OF HIM BEING AN S-RANK HUNTER?

IF HE EVER ENDS UP ATTACKING ONE OF THE SOUTH KOREAN HUNTERS, YOU MUST STOP HIM IMMEDIATELY.

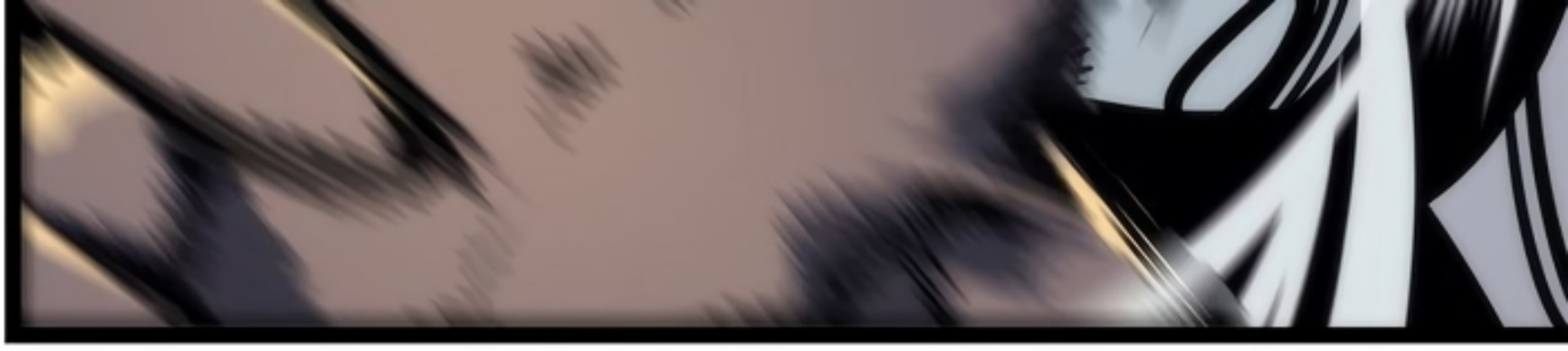
BUT LEAVE HIM BE FOR NOW. THIS IS JUST A TEST.

NOW'S PROBABLY THE BEST TIME TO INTERVENE THOUGH, ISN'T IT?

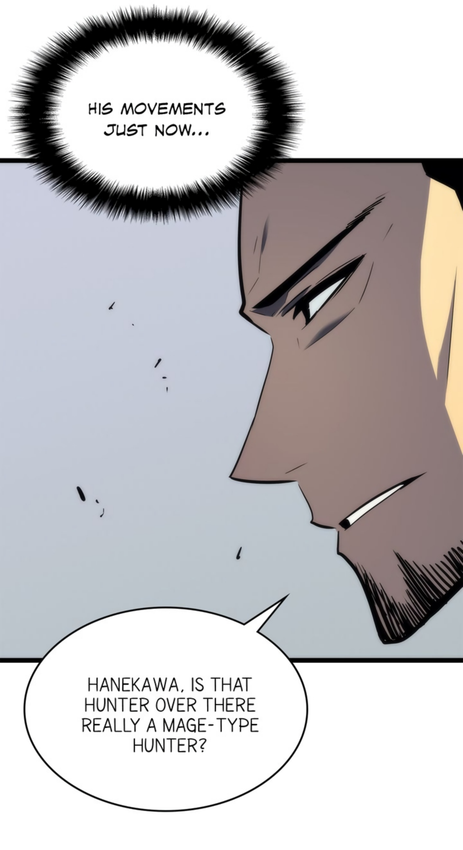
WE CAN'T AFFORD TO COMPENSATE FOR THE DAMAGES HE'S CAUSING.

HE'S FAST...!
BOOM

EXCUSE ME FOR INTERVENING, BUT...
...I THINK YOU GUYS ARE GETTING TOO CARRIED AWAY. THIS IS JUST A SPARRING SESSION.
YOU BASTARD!!



SLAM


HIS MOVEMENTS JUST NOW...

HANEKAWA, IS THAT HUNTER OVER THERE REALLY A MAGE-TYPE HUNTER?

YES... ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT THAT WAS RELEASED, AT LEAST...

I GUESS THE QUICKEST WAY TO FIND OUT IS TO CHECK FOR MYSELF.

MS. CHA, WHY DON'T WE CALL THIS A LOSS FOR THE SOUTH KOREAN TEAM?

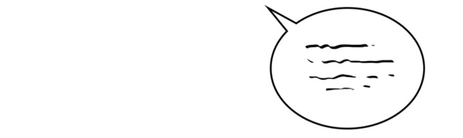
ALL RIGHT...

IT LOOKS LIKE MR. BAEK WAS CAUGHT AS WELL.

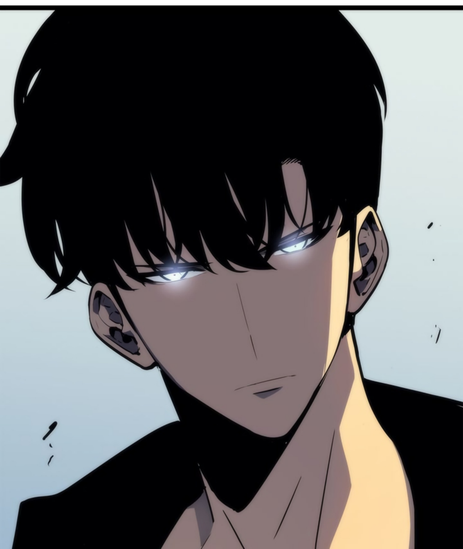
THE JAPANESE HUNTERS ARE OVERWHELMINGLY STRONGER THAN US.

I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO ANYTHING EVEN IF I HAD TRANSFORMED.

SIR, MR. GOTO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOU.



I'D LIKE TO HAVE A ONE-ON-ONE FIGHT WITH YOU. WHAT DO YOU SAY?



To Be Continued...

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